

The Baptist Record

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Somalia in dire need; Mozambique is next

By Art Toalston

WASHINGTON (BP) — "The massive death and devastation we have seen in Somalia is beginning to emerge in other parts of Africa as well," said David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World. "Not only is the continent experiencing the worst drought of the century, civil wars in Somalia and Mozambique are compounding the situation. The lives of nearly 60 million Africans are in

danger."

Beckmann and several other nonprofit relief officials recently returned from a survey of conditions in Somalia and other drought-stricken parts of southern Africa.

Assessments indicate Mozambique will likely deteriorate into a crisis similar to Somalia if greater attention is not directed toward the country. In both

Somalia and Mozambique, civil war, political disarray and drought are fueling the famine. In Mozambique, relief officials estimate 3.1 million people are at immediate risk of starvation and an additional 6 million people are dependent on food aid.

Despite stepped-up relief efforts in Somalia, an estimated 2,000 to 5,000 people continue to die daily.

"The current situation in Somalia is horrifying," said Philip Johnston, president of CARE. "I saw children whose thighs and legs were no bigger in circumference than my wrist. Their bodies had no muscle mass, only bone and skin covering it. It is tremendously difficult to get food through to Somalia's desperately hungry people."

"I've been a witness to many scenes of indescribable human suffering," said Jeffery Clark, Africa consultant with the U.S. Committee for Refugees. "Nothing, however, was adequate preparation for my travels in Somalia — a journey to hell if there ever was one. I have returned shaken and shocked, but I have also come back angry at the stewards of the international humanitarian assistance system that have allowed this horrible situation to deteriorate into monumental catastrophe."

Sagging donations for Africa are also a serious concern. "Only 3 percent of the public contributions donated for relief efforts in Africa during (the Ethiopian crisis of) 1984-85 have been raised for this humanitarian crisis," said Tom Getman, chair of the Inter-Action Disaster Response Committee and director of govern-

Relief experts have called for three specific responses to meet the dire needs in Africa:

1) Increased public donations to private relief organizations providing assistance in Africa. Among those organizations is the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, based in Richmond, Virginia, with work among Somali refugees in Kenya and Yemen. Other evangelical organizations at the forefront of Somali aid include World Vision of Pasadena, Calif., and World Concern of Seattle, Washington.

2) Increased media coverage of the drought, not only in Somalia, but in other parts of Africa as well. Bread for the World notes: "The drought in Somalia was reported only after it was too late to prevent much of the suffering. Editors and journalists must not wait until bodies are emaciated and lying on the streets before giving attention to the drought and famine affecting the rest of Africa."

3) Increased response by the government, specifically:

— The U.S. should continue to flood Somalia with food and step up efforts to provide non-food development assistance to southern Africa.

— The State Department must play a more active role in seeking peace in both Somalia and Mozambique.

— President Bush should encourage immediate deployment of 3,500 U.N. security forces in Somalia.

— The Senate should approve \$80 million in disaster aid for Africa to meet emergency needs for seeds, water, and transportation.

"Abhorrent conditions which we tolerate for Africans are conditions we clearly are not willing to tolerate for ourselves or for Europeans," said Sharon Pauling, Africa policy analyst for Bread for the World. "We've become comfortable

with the notion that Africans can adjust to dehumanizing conditions. This hypocrisy is inadmissible as the world has the capacity to prevent famine."

Toalston is BP news director.

FMB proposes peace initiative to speed Somali food supplies

By Donald D. Martin

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will assist a group of Somali expatriates in its attempt to secure peace between warring factions in Somalia.

The board has agreed to transport five members of the Somali Coalition for Action to Somalia as soon as the group secures written invitations from faction leaders assuring safe passage in and out of the country.

Board administrators hope the trip will take place by mid-October or early November. They also plan to send relief supplies with the coalition delegation, said Jim Houser, FMB associate area director for eastern and southern Africa.

"The idea is to help bring about a cease-fire in the short term and, in the long term, peace so relief goods can be distributed safely to the people," Houser said. "We're involved because we were approached by the group and felt this was at least worth a try."

Since March 1991 the Foreign Mission Board has channeled more than \$115,000 in relief and world hunger funds to workers in Kenya and Yemen aiding Somali refugees. Board officials expect to send more aid in the coming months. The board also has issued special calls to prayer for Somalia and asked several hundred Southern Baptist churches to include the Somali people in their prayer ministries that focus on unreached people groups.

The board also is involved in efforts to help with relief work in Somalia itself, explained Bill Bullington, vice president for mission work in Africa. Soon mission workers in the region will submit new requests for

funding relief work, he said.

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission also hopes to raise Southern Baptists' awareness of relief needs in Somalia during the denomination's World Hunger Day observance Oct. 11.

Help has also come from Baptist World Alliance, which through its Baptist World Aid division, has sent \$40,000 to help feed Somali refugees.

But the fighting in Somalia must stop before relief groups can effectively distribute food. And the Somali Coalition for Action believes it can play a part in ending the violence.

The year-old group has appealed for peace in Somalia so international relief supplies can reach the thousands of Somalis who are dying from lack of food, medicine and water, explained Ali Mohamed Aden, the coalition's chairman and main spokesman.

Between 2,000 and 5,000 people die each day in Somalia because of drought and civil war, relief groups report. They estimate 25% of children under 5 years old have died in Somalia in the past 12 months.

Somalia's plunge into anarchy began in January 1991 when a loosely unified opposition force ousted President Mohamed Siad Barre, ending 21 years of brutal dictatorial rule. Siad Barre, a Cold War ally first of the Soviet Union and then of the United States, governed the nation of predominantly nomadic herders by playing one clan against another.

When Siad Barre's government fell, the dictator left behind one of the poorest nations in the world. He also left a heavily

armed opposition force, which soon turned on itself as different factions scrambled for

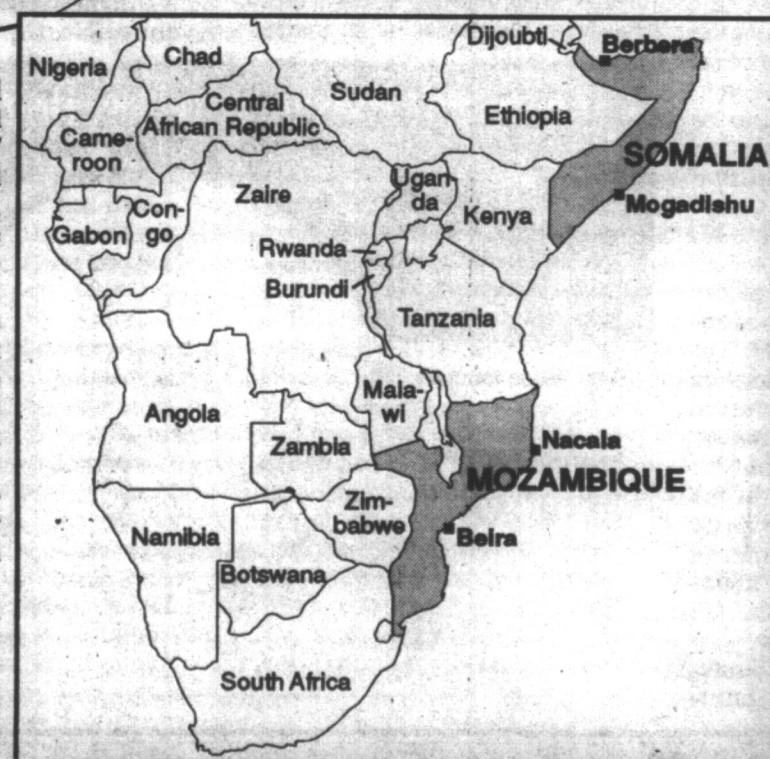


power.

"This (civil war) is Siad Barre's legacy," said Mohamed Ali Hassan, president of the Somali Coalition for Action. "What we are going through at present is a time of temporary insanity. What we need is temporary help to get back on our feet and be a nation again."

"We are not against any group in Somalia," added Aden. "We do not wish anyone harm or ask for anyone's dismissal (in Somalia), but we are working to bring together our people for humanitarian reconciliation. We believe there is a way to solve this without going back to a dictatorship."

Martin writes for the FMB.



ment relations with World Vision. "Private voluntary organizations face serious financial shortfalls unless the media can help move the American public to past levels of generosity."

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

"I call this meeting to order"

October will be the time for most associations to have their fall meetings. The association is an integral part of Baptist life. There are more than 1,200 associations in the SBC, all alike in some facets, all different in size, shape, and number of churches. In Mississippi, there are 74 of the finest associations.

This fellowship of churches involves oneness, shared life, mutuality, and "koinonia." The association is a family of churches, a network through which churches give and receive assistance. An association is created by churches and is accountable to those churches through their messengers. Like all Baptist bodies, it is self-governing.

Your association is on the cutting edge of missions. The association is able to plan programs which will benefit all churches. It can carry on a mission program in cooperation with all the churches that the individual church cannot do.

The first association in Mississippi was organized in 1807 at Bethel Church in the southwest part of the state. Four other churches joined it, to become the Mississippi Baptist Association.

This was before we had a convention and even 10 years before the territory became a state. Since then, associations have made significant contributions to the growth of Baptists in the state.

The fall associational meeting is not "just another meeting," but the annual (semi-annual for some) meeting. It is a linking of hands with the 1807 brethren; it assures ongoing growth for the generations which follow.

Most associations have directors of missions who will give reports, and who are knowledgeable about our total missions efforts. Important reports from other committees, agencies, and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board members need to be heard.

Associations are essential to new church starts, mission activities in

the area, and much of the benevolence work. Some have literacy programs, feeding and clothing stations, recreational and park ministries, booths at the county fair, and dozens of other ways to minister to people.

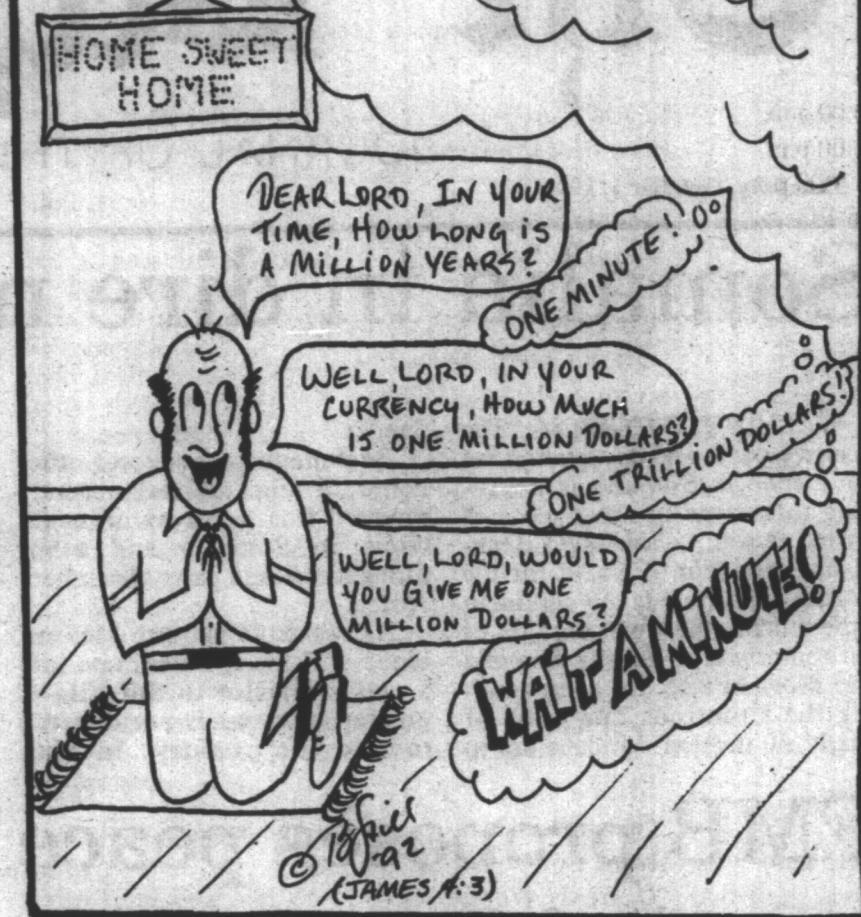
Mark your association's meeting on the calendar and make plans to be there. You will be a better informed Baptist, and have more interest in the outreach of your association.

The association is the best step to take in reaching others outside the immediate community. It creates highways to ministries and brings the satisfaction of service to those who walk therein.

This year our associations have ministered to people in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Colorado, Alaska, Honduras, Mexico, to hurricane victims in Louisiana and many other places. This was done by volunteers who gave vacation time and money to reach out to others. There should be some excellent reports given this fall. Don't miss it.

Guy Henderson

D. STILL AND KNOW...



Observe Cooperative Program Month in October

By James L. Powell

guest, and a Cooperative Program Check-up (Cooperative Program Month Bulletin Insert, NCP-13) are suggested.

Information about these and other features may be found in the 1992-93 Church Event Guide (CP-32). This guide and other CP materials suggested for use during Cooperative Program Month are available to you upon request from the state Stewardship Department or may be purchased from SBC Stewardship Services, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN

During Cooperative Program Month in October, your church is being asked to help launch the Southern Baptist Convention's 1992-93 Bold Mission Thrust Emphasis, "Equipping Believers." It will introduce the church to several projects designed to help carry out the equipping theme. One of these is the Cooperative Program Evaluation Church Event. This special event is planned for Oct. 25.

Detailed information about this Cooperative Program (CP) church event can be found in the Cooperative Program Month Church Event Guide (CP-32). This guide can be obtained from the state convention Cooperative Program/Stewardship office or by calling the SBC Cooperative Program hotline (1-800-722-9407).

October is the time many churches make budget decisions related to CP giving for 1993. The Cooperative Program Evaluation Church Event will help church members get ready to make important mission support decisions.

Young men and women in the church will be trained to circulate throughout the church during October to confront church members with questions about the CP printed on special flash cards.

Anyone who has been a Southern Baptist very long may know

something about the Cooperative Program; but many longtime Southern Baptists have only a general knowledge about it. Without some instruction, we should never assume that fellow church members will understand our unique system of supporting mission ministries through the Cooperative Program.

A special worship service is suggested for Oct. 25. Special music, testimonies, prayers for home and foreign missionaries, special message from the pastor or an invited

37234.

Other ways of observing Cooperative Program Month include:

— Sharing information about CP giving with church members and becoming personally involved in the church's annual budgeting process.

— Giving selected CP materials to church members for awareness, education, and inspiration.

— Displaying the Cooperative Program Month poster at locations throughout the church.

— Introducing eight new missionaries to your congregation by using special prayer requests for home and foreign missionaries in Missionary Moments during morning and evening worship services.

— Preparing special CP bulletin boards throughout the church to teach church members some facts about the Cooperative Program.

— Planning a special Cooperative Program drama or some other CP activity during after-church fellowships. Order a copy of the Giving Together Drama Booklet for suggestions.

— Spending some time praying for our home and foreign missionaries during each service in October. Contact the Home and Foreign Mission boards for a current listing of prayer requests (1-800-554-PRAY for home missions, 1-

800-395-PRAY for foreign missions).

— Planning a special CP feature or activity during October deacons' meeting, church council meeting, or Brotherhood meeting. Order copies of A Cooperative Program Cram Course or Southern Baptists Working Together.

— Using CP promotion clip-art in church newsletters and publications. Obtain a copy of Cooperative Program Repro Proofs from SBC Stewardship Services.

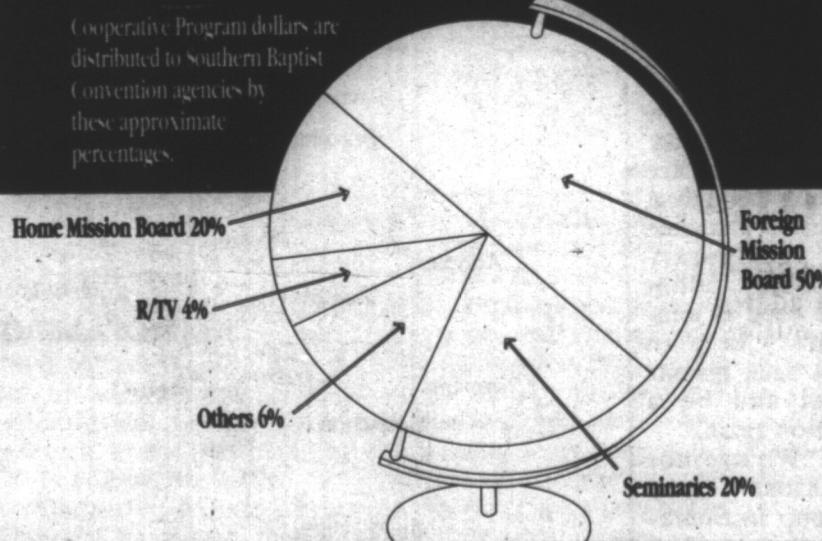
— Listing the Cooperative Program hotline (1-800-722-9407) in your bulletin/mail out and encouraging church members to use it.

These are only a few of the possibilities for Cooperative Program Month activities in your church. Make your Cooperative Program Month plans extensive enough that every church member will have an opportunity to hear about the Cooperative Program at least once.

For best results order the resource materials you will need for Cooperative Program Month from your state convention stewardship/Cooperative Program promotion office, or SBC Stewardship Services, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, TN 37234 (1-800-458-2772) as early as possible.

Powell is executive vice president for CP promotion, Stewardship Commission, SBC.

Cooperative Program Percentage Distribution



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SBC HOTEL LIST

Hotel Code	Downtown Area	S/D
ALPI	Allen Park Inn	\$69/69
DID	Days Inn Downtown	\$55/75
DBH	Doubletree at Allen Center	\$92/102
FSDT	Cour Seasons Hotel Houston	\$123/123
HR	Hyatt Regency Houston (SBC HQ)	\$99/99
LAN	The Lancaster	\$120/125
HSH	Medical Center Area	
HIMC	Harvey Suites Houston Med. Ctr.	\$75/80
HPH	Holiday Inn Medical Center	\$65/70
MHMC	Houston Plaza Hilton	\$95/95
PARK	Marriott Medical Center	\$105/115
WARH	Park Inn International	\$50/55
	The Wyndham Warwick	\$78/78
CM	Astrodome Area	
GM	Chief Motel	\$45/45
HIAD	Grant Motel	\$33/36
MMH	Holiday Inn Astrodome	\$72/72
MOT6A	Marriott Astrodome	\$75/85
RSH	Motel 6 South Loop West	\$27.95/33.95
RI	Radisson Suite Hotel	\$60/60
ROA	Residence Inn by Marriott	\$90/115
SHEA	Roadrunner Astrodome	\$25/25
WMMH	Sheraton Astrodome Hotel	\$75/75
	White House Motor Hotel	\$45/45
HIGP	Greenway Plaza Area	S/D
RIGP	Holiday Inn Greenway Plaza	\$55/60
SGP	Ramada Inn Greenway Plaza	\$54/59
TRGP	Stouffer Presidente Hotel	\$80/80
	Travelodge Hotel Greenway Plaza	\$66/72
DBPO	Galleria Area	
GQII	Doubletree at Post Oak	\$105/115
HICP	Guest Quarters Suite Hotel	\$99/99
HIWL	Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza	\$87/87
HOUS	Holiday Inn West Loop	\$60/65
JWM	Houstonian Hotel	\$80/90
MHG	J.W. Marriott Houston Galleria	\$108/108
OMNI	Marriott West Loop Galleria	\$97/97
RC	Omni Hotel	\$115/115
SGH	Ritz Carlton Houston	\$110/125
WGH	Sheraton Grand Hotel	\$80/80
WO	Westin Galleria (WMU HQ)	\$97/97
	Westin Oaks	\$97/97
HM	North Loop Area	
	Houston Medallion	\$79/79

Executive Committee rejects study of CBF as pointless

By Greg Warner

istries.

The Executive Committee, during its three-day meeting in Nashville, declined to examine the impact of the Fellowship after committee members said they could do nothing about it anyway and their time was better spent focused on SBC matters.

The study was requested by Bill Horton, a layman from Asheville, N.C., who told fellow committee members the Fellowship is a "subversive group" which is siphoning missions money from SBC causes and "proselytizing" SBC missionaries.

"The Southern Baptist Convention has been viciously attacked and it is wounded and bleeding," charged Horton.

In North Carolina, he said, the Fellowship is causing "turmoil, disruption, and chaos" among churches. In North Carolina, Texas, and Virginia, the

three states where the Fellowship has "attacked most zealously," contributions to the Cooperative Program have dropped \$2.3 million in the last 11 months, Horton said.

Other members of the committee, however, said such a study would be a pointless distraction and only lend credibility to the Fellowship.

"What can we do anyway?" asked James Morton of Grass Valley, Calif. A study "could continue some unnecessary tension," he said.

"Why don't we let those people go and do what they want to do?" asked Doug Westmoreland of Brentwood, Tenn. "Let's encourage our folks to make up whatever little deficit there is."

Morris Chapman, newly installed president of the Executive Committee, said he sympathizes with Horton's concern but doubts that the committee

could conduct the study "objectively."

"Within our (Baptist) polity, there are those who have a right to exist who disagree with us," Chapman added.

Committee members spoke on both sides of the issue before the motion failed easily on a voice vote.

The Fellowship expects to receive about \$6.4 million in

contributions this year. About 60% will be sent to traditional SBC agencies, while the rest will fund ministries operated or supported by the Fellowship. Earlier this year the Fellowship launched its own missions program, which now employs eight former SBC missionaries and plans to hire more.

Warner is editor, Associated Baptist Press.

Royal Ambassadors' Tri-State Camporee slated for Memphis

Royal Ambassadors and high school Baptist Young Men from Mississippi, Arkansas, and Tennessee will convene Oct. 9-10 at Camp Cordova in Memphis for the Tri-State Camporee. Over 1,000 boys and counselors will enjoy Christian fellowship, com-

pete in campcraft, and share interest activities during the camporee.

For an information packet, contact the Brotherhood Department at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at (601) 968-3800.

Anti-lottery forces garner major endorsements

First in a series

Opponents of the proposal to lift the constitutional ban on lotteries in Mississippi have picked up a number of important endorsements while laying the groundwork for defeating the proposal which will appear on the Nov. general election ballot, according to former state Sen. Bill Alexander of Cleveland, chairman of the anti-lottery group Citizens Advocating Responsible Economics (CARE).

Alexander, a 23-year legislative veteran who served as President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, reported at a press conference Sept. 22 on the steps of the Capitol in Jackson that prominent Mississippians who have come out against the lottery include Gov. Kirk

Fordice and his wife, Pat; former governors Bill Allain and Bill Waller, both of Jackson; Tupelo businessman and state education leader Jack Reed; Mississippi Farm Bureau President Don Waller of Jackson; and Mississippi Bankers Association President Bobby Martin of Ripley.

Alexander also said that ten religious denominations have signed up for the anti-lottery campaign, including Southern Baptist, African Methodist Episcopal, United Methodist, Church of Christ, Presbyterian Church in America, Christian Methodist Episcopal, Missionary Baptist, Assemblies of God, United Pentecostal, and Apostolic.

"More and more, Mississippi is depending on gambling to fund essential services of state and local

governments. Should the State of Mississippi really be a 'pusher' of lottery tickets, advertising on TV, radio, buses, and road signs? Surely this will send the wrong message to our children. If we do not defeat the lottery and show the legislature that we care about the future of our state, then I predict that the legislature will push for other forms of gambling," Alexander said.

Allain and Reed were emphatic about their positions on the lottery, describing how the game of chance will hit hard at the most economically vulnerable segment of the state's population without making a major contribution to public education, since the legislature has dodged earmarking the proceeds for that purpose.

Don Waller told the crowd at the

press conference that the Mississippi Farm Bureau stands "shoulder to shoulder" with CARE in working to defeat the lottery vote.

Martin pointed out that banks, as well as people, will suffer if the lottery becomes a reality.

"Gambling in any form is not economically feasible for the state," he said.

In the first of nine regional anti-lottery rallies across the state, about 75 opponents from south Mississippi gathered in Hattiesburg on the evening of Sept. 22 to denounce the Nov. vote.

Former state Sen. Cecil Mills of Clara, who led lottery opponents for several years while serving in the legislature, was one of the speakers at the rally.

"Our duty is to be informed and to inform others about the effects of the lottery on young people," Mills said.

Mills, who is serving as southern area co-chair for CARE, quoted a USA Today newspaper study that indicated that compulsive gambling will outstrip drugs and alcohol as the biggest problem for American youth in the 1990's.

"Study after study in California has shown a quadrupling in the number of young people buying lottery tickets in that state," he pointed out.

Mills also said that a study undertaken by the Mississippi legislature's own Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Committee proved that a lottery "displaces" money, rather than raises money.

Dot Ward of Jackson, central area co-chair for CARE, also spoke at the Hattiesburg rally, expressing her deep concern for the effects of the lottery on the people of Mississippi, and especially on the young people of the state.

Alexander outlined the steps necessary to defeat the lottery vote:

—Be in prayer about the issue.

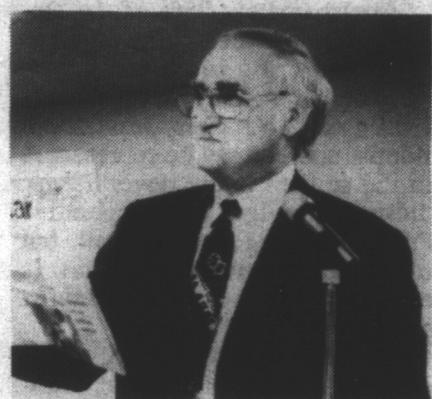
—Inform ourselves and educate others.

—Organize in churches, neighborhoods, and civic clubs.

—Contribute to CARE.

"[The pro-lottery forces] are

pouring millions into the state to win this vote. If the lottery is defeated, it won't come up again in the legislature for another 20 years. I've been in the legislature; I know," Alexander said.



Cecil Mills of Clara, a leading lottery opponent while serving in the Mississippi Senate, holds aloft a recent edition of the Meridian Star newspaper that contained an anti-lottery editorial. Mills was one of the speakers at a Hattiesburg anti-lottery rally on Sept. 22, the first of nine regional rallies to be held around the state. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

Agenda finalized, speakers announced for Church Media Library Conference

By Farrell Blankenship

The Annual Church Media Library (CML) Conference will be held Nov. 13-14 at First Church, Greenville. The officers have planned outstanding conferences this year to help church media library workers in every phase of their responsibilities.

Talley

The 1992-93 CML theme is "Focus On Training." Special emphasis this year will be given to the fiftieth anniversary of Church Media Library (1943-93).

The conference leaders include Jackie Anderson, retired senior staff consultant in the CML Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board (BSSB) in Nashville; Beth Andrews, Tarrant County (Texas) Association Media Library Director, Fort Worth, Texas; Danny Ayala and Stephen Gateley, consultants in the CML Department, BSSB; Kathy Sylvest, associate director, Communications Department, Louisiana Baptist Convention, Alexandria; and Claudia Talley, media library consultant for the Michigan Baptist Convention and director of Association CML Organization.

Courses being offered this year include

Administration, Basic Classification/Cataloging, Advanced Classification/Cataloging, Being God's People, Book Repair, Making Audiovisuals, Processing/Vertical Files, Promotion, Repair/Maintenance of AV Equipment, Selecting Media/Instructional Media, How to Witness with Media, Working with People, and Personal Consultation/Conference Leading Skills.

Anderson

Featured speaker at the Saturday morning session is Richard Wi-man from Indianola, author of *Tired Tubes and Ten-Speed Turkeys*.

The conference hotel in Greenville will be the Best Western Regency Inn located at 2428 U.S. Highway 82, telephone (601) 334-6900. A block of rooms has been reserved for the CML Conference for use Nov. 13.

Cost will be \$41 per room, including a complimentary breakfast. Reservations must be made by Oct. 13. After this date rooms will be on a space available basis.

Reservations must be made in advance for the two meals served at the church. Lunch on Friday will be \$2 per person; dinner on Friday evening, \$6 per person. Make checks payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and mail to Broadcast Services/CML, P.O. Box 530, Jackson MS 39205-0530. Reservation deadline is Nov. 2.



Sylvest

The agenda for the conference begins with registration at 9:30 a.m. Nov. 13 in the Family Life Center, with conferences beginning at 10 a.m. The sessions will conclude at 9 p.m. The general session begins at 8 a.m. Nov. 14, and the CML workshop Ayala will conclude by 12:30 p.m. Saturday. For more information, contact Broadcast Services Department at MBCB in Jackson.

The 1991-92 officers for the State Media Library Organization are: president, Sharon Neff, Arcola; vice president, Agatha Sandidge, Brookhaven; program chairman, Dixie Hicks, Greenville; historian, Joan Beasley, Wesson; publicity chairman, Juanita Hight, Louisville; TACMO representative, Faye Miller, Hattiesburg; ex officio, Sandra Fitts, Corinth; and state CML director, Farrell Blankenship.

Blankenship is director, Broadcast Services, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Wyatte Church, Senatobia, will observe 100th

Wyatte Church, Senatobia, will observe its 100th anniversary as a church, Oct. 4.

Worship will begin at 11 a.m. A covered dish dinner will be served in the fellowship hall at noon, and an afternoon sing will follow.

There will be no night services. John A. Raulerson is pastor.



Lottery opponents gathered Sept. 22 at the Capitol in Jackson to announce their opposition to the measure lifting the constitutional ban on lotteries that will appear on the Nov. general election ballot. Former state Sen. William B. Alexander (at podium) of Cleveland is flanked by representatives of the major religious denominations in Mississippi, as well as former Gov. Bill Allain of Jackson, Tupelo businessman Jack Reed, Mississippi Farm Bureau President Don Waller of Jackson, and Mississippi Bankers Association President Bobby Martin of Ripley. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

October is CP month...

Cooperative Program gifts invest in Christian education

By Debbie Baird Buie

Approximately 95% of the student body of Mississippi College have something in common with one another — they are all Southern Baptists. Not every Mississippi Baptist church may be represented in the student body; nevertheless, those that budget for Cooperative Program giving have a small, but important, connection that is echoed in each Mississippi Baptist school.

According to Robbie Bell, publicist for Mississippi College, Clinton, Cooperative Program gifts for operations represents about 10% of the total unrestricted revenue. The bulk of the revenue, 80% comes from student tuition and fees; the remaining 10% comes from endowments and other sources.

Cooperative Program gifts are not designated to any particular budget item at Mississippi College, but a significant portion goes to fund scholarships for missionary kids, religion majors, and others in church-related vocations. "However," Bell says, "since specific allocations are not made, you might say Cooperative Program dollars are spent in the same percentages as total dollars."

"Without the Cooperative Program," Bell says, "the tuition and

fees would need to generate 90% of income, which would amount to \$21 more per credit hour for 1992-93.

"Stated in terms of full-time equivalent students, Mississippi College received approximately \$600 per student from the Cooperative Program," Bell says.

Our Cooperative Program gifts help students afford top-notch educations. But it goes beyond that. When Mississippi Baptists support institutions of higher learning we are ensuring a solid future with well-taught and trained church and spiritual leadership.

It is nearly impossible to track the number of Baptist college graduates who serve or have served in some form of ministry. A business major could be serving as a church administrator or as a missionary with a like position; and that is just one example.

"There are undoubtedly thousands of Mississippi College graduates scattered across the world right now who are in full-time Christian service," says Bell. Multiply that by the number of Baptist colleges and universities and one will see how far-reaching their investment may be.

"Preparing students for Christian ministry is a very high priority on this campus," she says.

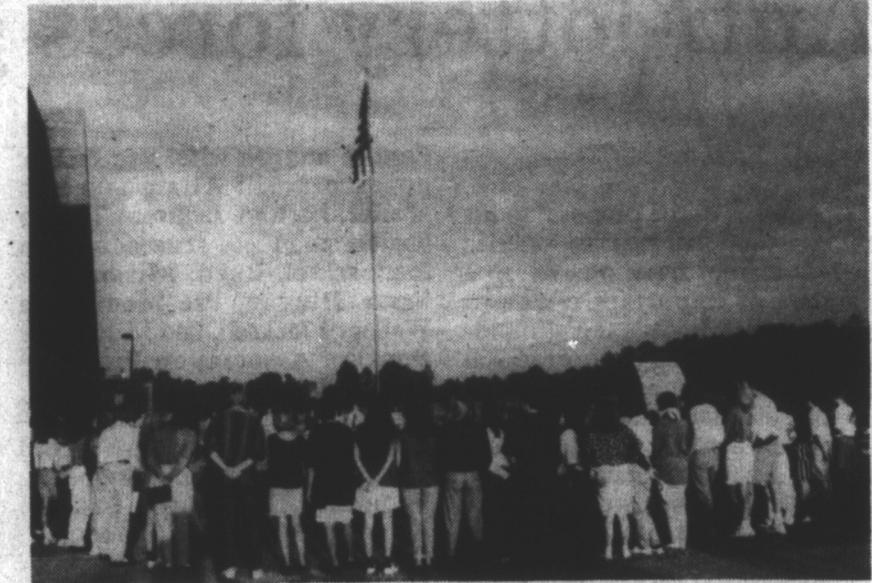
Many of these people received financial assistance indirectly from Cooperative Program funding.

"Mississippi College does offer assistance to ministerial students, as well as to those who are pursuing a church-related vocation," says Tom Prather, director of financial aid. "Institutional scholarships to missionary kids are in part funded by money received from the Mississippi Baptist Convention."

A student's financial aid may actually be compiled from both institutional and external sources. However, says Prather, "The assistance that we receive from Mississippi Baptists plays a very important role as we work to give students the opportunity to attend Mississippi College."

Considering that Cooperative Program funds also make their way to the six Southern Baptist seminaries, Mississippi Baptists can feel proud that their individual gifts through their church's Cooperative Program allocation are an investment in the best of Christian education for tomorrow's Christian leadership.

Buie is a freelance writer living in Vicksburg. Robbie Bell, MC publicist, also helped prepare this article.



"See You at the Pole" — nationwide

Students and parents at Northwest Rankin Attendance Center in Brandon were among thousands of people across the country who gathered around school flagpoles in the early morning hours of Sept. 16 for "See You at the Pole," a united Christian effort to call attention to the problems facing American teenagers and to pray for the nation in crisis, as prescribed in Chapter 2 of the book of Joel. Nearly 12,000 people participated statewide, according to official tabulations. About 125 students and parents encircled the flagpole for the 7 a.m. service at Northwest Rankin, a scene repeated hundreds of times around the United States. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

"See You At Pole" denial nets student conversions

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (BP)

— Three young people accepted Christ as Savior as a result of students in three Corpus Christi schools being told they couldn't assemble to pray on the school grounds during "See You at the Pole" Sept. 16.

"What Satan meant for evil, God used for good," said Sam Douglass, pastor of Yorktown Church in Corpus Christi.

When students arrived at 7 a.m. at King and Moody high schools and the Tom Browne Middle School, they were told they could not assemble and pray on the schools' grounds.

Students at two of the schools left the school grounds to pray but some of the students at King High School went ahead and prayed around the flag pole, although they were told they would be subject to disciplinary action.

King High School principal Sherry Blackett, a member of First Church in Corpus Christi, told the students, "I have the same convictions as you but I'm compelled to carry out the policy."

She said, "The students were not belligerent. They held hands and prayed around the flagpole."

Media were on hand to record the incident, and as soon as the word spread, Blackett was besieged by irate callers, many making unkind comments, she said.

Most other principals in Corpus Christi were at a breakfast that morning and apparently were not aware of the prayer event, Blackett said. But she learned about it the day before from posters placed in the school hallway by students.

Blackett said when she asked the superintendent of schools for direction, she was told she must enforce

the policy and tell the students that if they refused to leave, they would be penalized.

She felt it didn't help her status when another principal was quoted by the Corpus Christi Caller-Times as saying, "If I had known about the prayer meeting, I would not have enforced the rule."

Douglass said, "Mrs. Blackett did everything with integrity."

When Blackett explained her predicament at the regularly scheduled open house at King High School the night following "See You at the Pole," most parents gave her a standing ovation.

Douglass said denial of the students' right to assemble was based on a closed-forum policy established by the Corpus Christi School Board.

He said parents and other community and church leaders have protested and asked for a written policy that is legally viable.

Douglass said an immediate positive aftermath of the incident resulted when the students who stayed to pray were questioned by others as to why they were being disciplined.

They shared their faith and led three students to accept Christ as Savior.

Preliminary reports indicate that 100,000 students in Texas prayed around their schools' flagpoles during "See You at the Pole," the largest simultaneous youth prayer meeting in history, said Chuck Flowers, associate in the Texas Baptist evangelism division.

The youth prayer effort, begun by Texas Baptists three years ago, may have involved as many as two million students nationwide, double last year's participants, leaders said.

Draper fields editors', journalists' questions

NASHVILLE (BP) — From rumors the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board plans to develop a program to compete with Woman's Missionary Union to concern over an "experience drain" left by the retirement of more than 100 long-tenured employees, President James T. Draper Jr. addressed questions on a variety of issues during a two-hour briefing of 41 Baptist state paper editors and journalists Sept. 21 in Nashville.

"We have complementary and not competing roles," he said. "But there are some things that women are facing that the WMU is not assigned to deal with. For instance, abused wives, single parents — these are areas that need some attention and this is very much in line with what has been assigned to our discipleship and family development division."

While the board will work on products in these areas, Draper

said the agency will not produce materials to compete with WMU's missions-focused curriculum and periodicals.

Discussing the board's voluntary retirement incentive program — an offering of early retirement to 191 employees as part of the institution's restructuring — Draper said he is concerned about the potential "experience drain" created by the departure of many long-tenured employees. As of Sept. 18, Draper said 105 employees had accepted the early retirement option, adding several more will likely do so by the Oct. 15 deadline.

To help minimize problems caused by the departure of experienced employees, Draper said the board is contracting with some of the retirees to work as consultants during transition.

Draper said the board plans to replace about 50% of the departing employees, adding the retirement program is expected to save the board about \$2.5 million.

Among other responses from the editors and journalists, Draper said the BSSB will provide materials and services to all Southern Baptist churches regardless of their political affiliation in the denominational controversy. However, the board will not likely send representatives or displays to next year's meeting of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Churches that served as hurricane shelters (final listing)

Brandon
First
Oakdale

Brookhaven
Easthaven

Copiah Assn.
Strong Hope

Grenada
First

Hazlehurst
Shady Grove

Jackson
West Jackson
Woodville Heights

Martinsville
Spring Hill

McComb
First

Moss Point
First

Pearl
Emmanuel
McLaurin Heights

Pelahatchie
Pelahatchie

Poplarville
First

Reservoir
Pinelake

Summitt
First

Waynesboro
Calvary

Wesson
First

HOUSETOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

October 1, 1992

PRAYERGRAM

Sept. 3-17, 1992

PRAY for the tense and urgent situation in the East African country of Somalia. There is a total state of anarchy within the country and danger for those who try to minister from the outside. It is estimated that between 1,000 and 5,000 people die daily from starvation and illness. 99.9 percent of the people are Muslim, but there are a few Christians. The Foreign Mission Board has set aside \$150,000 to help provide food and medicine for these people. Pray for the Christians in Somalia and for the missionaries who are seeking to minister in this tragic time of need.

Pray for the missionary couples who are transferring their missionary service to work in the former Soviet Union area. Robert and May Tucker are transferring from Canada and Norman and Annette Lytle Jackson are transferring from Israel.

Pray for the Miskito Indians who live along the Mosquito coast in Honduras and Nicaragua. Stanley Stamps, a Mississippi missionary to Honduras, has helped produce the first evangelistic tract in the language of the Miskito Indians.

Pray for Rob Lee, state director of student work for the Utah-Idaho Baptist Convention. Pray for the growth of the Baptist campus ministry of Brigham Young University and for the spiritual growth of the students.

Pray for Judson and Harriet Lennon, retired missionaries from Thailand. Judson is now pastoring a Laotian Mission in Charlotte, N.C., with more than 50 in attendance. Pray that the Lord will provide a Laotian pastor to come and lead the people.

Pray for a "movement" among high school students across our nation, as they rally around the flag pole to pray. Ask God that these students might have an effective witness for Christ on their campuses.

Pray for the Jerry Moser family of Houma, La. Jerry is a pastor of the Bayou DuLarge Baptist Mission. He asks for prayer for his family. His wife, Cindy, is in treatment for a malignant brain tumor. Two of their three sons have a disease similar to muscular dystrophy.

HOUSETOPS is a supplement to the **Baptist Record** and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Pray for the Women's Conference to be held at the Mississippi College Coliseum, Clinton, Ms., Oct. 9 and 10, 1992. The theme is: "Lead On...in My Life, in My World and in My Relationships." Dynamic speakers, musicians and Christian artists will make this a conference that none should miss.

Pray for Royal Ambassador Day on Oct. 3 at Mississippi College. R.A. Day is for all boys in Grades 1-12 and their leaders, and is sponsored by the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Pray that your church will be convicted by the Holy Spirit to start an Intercessory Prayer Ministry if you do not have one. HT



**Mississippi
Baptist
Prayer Line**

Decaf or Regular?

the choice is yours at the
**BIVO MINISTERS AND
MINISTERS WIVES
BREAKFAST**

**November 11, 1992
7-8:15 a.m.**

Admiral Benbow Restaurant; 905 N. State, Jackson

- No Charge
- No Reservation Necessary

- All Bivo Ministers/Ministers Wives, students and anyone interested in Bivo Ministry are invited for a time of information and fellowship.
- We will be electing officers
- Reports will be given.

Featuring: Dale Holloway, Bivo Consultant with the Home Mission Board

**1992
ADULT
CHOIR FESTIVAL**

October 23-24, 1992
Alta Woods Baptist Church
Jackson, Miss.

GUEST CLINICIAN
Mark Blankenship
Consultant, Church Music Department
Baptist Sunday School Board

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, October 23, 1992

- 7:00 p.m. Welcome and Choirs Sing
9:30 p.m. Dismiss for the night

SATURDAY, October 24, 1992

- 9:00 a.m. Choirs Sing
*(warm up rooms will be available
Saturday at 8:15 a.m.)*
Noon Dismiss

*For registration form and other
information please contact:*

L. Graham Smith, Director; Church
Music Department; MBCB, P.O. Box
530; Jackson, MS 39205-0530;
Phone: (601)968-3800, extension
3867.

Christian Marriage Enrichment

First Church, Jackson, will host two programs related to marriage enrichment. The first, Oct. 9, will be a Taylor Johnson Temperament Analysis Seminar. The second, Oct. 10, will be "A Day of Marriage Renewal." Both will be led by H. Norman Wright, licensed marriage, family, and child counselor.

The temperament analysis seminar is for those actively involved in counseling or care giving. It is for those who have "wondered whether to work with a person or refer a person, wanted a way to discover a person's problems immediately, or wanted to be able to use a personality indicator for counseling and group Bible study."

The Marriage Renewal day is "for couples who have good marriages and would like to strengthen and enhance their relationship." Engaged couples are welcome.

Topics will include "How expectations and needs affect your marriage," "Learning to speak your partner's language," and "Building romance into your marriage—it can be done."

Cost for each program is \$75 per person. Pastors may bring spouses for an additional \$40.

The program is co-sponsored by First Church and the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department of the MBCB.

To register, complete the form below and mail with your check payable to Christian Marriage Enrichment to: Christian Marriage Enrichment, 17821 17th Street, Suite 290, Tustin, CA 92680. HT

Literacy Missions Workshop

A Literacy Missions Workshop is scheduled to be conducted at Briarwood Drive Baptist Church in Jackson on October 30-November 1, 1992.

Training in four areas will be offered:

- Basic Adult Reading and Writing
- Advanced Adult Reading and Writing
- Basic Conversational English
- Advanced Conversational English

For additional information and registration call James Webster at the Hinds-Madison Baptist Association office (601) 262-8676.

This project is jointly sponsored by the Hinds-Madison Baptist Association and Cooperative Missions Department, MBCB. HT

1992 Senior Adult Autumn Fest Canceled

The Senior Adult Autumn Fest Retreat scheduled for Gulfshore, October 12-16, has been canceled. Registrations were not sufficient to support the event. This fall conference has been conducted for the past three years on a cost recovery basis as an addition to the spring events which are supported by the Cooperative Program. Therefore, it was necessary to reach a certain number in order to have the fall event.

Persons who have registered will receive full refunds of deposits made. Planners of the conference regret any inconvenience caused by the cancellation. A good conference with outstanding leaders had been planned. The lack of response may indicate a need for a change in format and perhaps length for the fall of 1993.

The spring retreats for 1993 are scheduled for May 17-21, 24-26, and 27-29. HT

I plan to attend:

- Taylor Johnson Temperament Analysis Seminar, Jackson Oct. 9
 Enclosed is my check for \$75

- Day of Marriage Renewal, Jackson, Oct 10
 Enclosed is my check for \$75

For further information, call Ron Mumbower, First Baptist Church, Jackson; 968-1900 or Christian Marriage Enrichment (714) 544-7560

REGISTRATION Christian Marriage Enrichment October 9-10, 1992

Mr. Mrs. Miss

Address

City

State

Zip

Small Church Pastors Deserve Recognition

The last issue of **HouseTops** told of the winners of the Outstanding Small Church Pastors awards for this year. The two are Eddie Bryant pastor of Tucker's Crossing Church, Ellisville; and Marvin Howard, pastor of Mt. Zion Church, Smithdale.

Matt Buckles of the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, which promotes this process, says, "Eddie and Marvin are excellent examples of outstanding small church pastoral leadership in our Mississippi churches. They have given tirelessly and faithfully of themselves as God's servants in doing his Kingdom's work."

"I hope many directors of missions in concert with their associational and local leadership will nominate other deserving small church pastors as Eddie and Marvin. The Sunday School Board's Church Administration Department contacts directors of missions each December about nominees. Directors of missions then submit nominees to the CAPM Department which enlists a group of retired ministers to make the selections for Mississippi."

Bryant and Howard along with their families were recognized for their selection on July 23 at the Bible/Preaching/Administration Conference at Gulfshore. In addition to engraved plaques, the men received autographed copies of books from Paul Powell, president of the Annuity Board who was a featured speaker and leader at the conference **HT**

Challenge of the Blues

Have you had an opportunity to view the Missions USA Video Magazine Special Edition: *Challenge of the Blues*?

"Life among these muddy waters birthed one of our county's unique forms of music. But the blues also, ironically, describes the way of life for residents in seven states, from Southern Illinois to Southeast Louisiana.

The lower Mississippi River is America's poorest. More than 20 percent of its 8 million people live in poverty. Newborns stand less chance of survival in some counties than in Chile, Cuba, or Malaysia.

Challenge of the Blues spins the sad story of life along the Mississippi. But this touching video also shares a glimmer of hope.

Needs will be determined, and work will be started to help the people of this area in Christ's name. Watch *Challenge of the Blues*, learn, pray, and become involved.

Contact your associational office and ask for this special edition of Missions USA Video Magazine. **HT**

THREE NEW FAMILY MINISTRY STUDIES

Three new family ministry studies will be taking place in four locations on Nov. 7.

These workshops will provide training to church leaders to return home to lead courses in "Making Peace with Your Past," "Counsel for the Newly and Nearly Married," and "Communication and Intimacy: Covenant Marriage."

Each course begins at 9 a.m. and concludes at 12:30 p.m. Locations are Calvary Church, Tupelo; First Church, Greenwood; Colonial Heights Church, Jackson; and First Church, Hattiesburg.

The "Making Peace with Your Past" workshop (cost—\$10) will train leaders for a ministry for persons who have been reared in families where problems have disrupted healthy patterns of behavior. This is a 12-week course, not requiring a professional leader.

The "Counsel for the Newly and Newly Married" workshop (cost—\$15) will equip leaders for a ministry to encourage couples to cope with and celebrate adjustments that accompany the decision to marry. This is an eight-session-course which may be led by the pastor or a volunteer church leader.

The "Communication and Intimacy: Covenant Marriage" workshop (cost—\$25) is the second course in Covenant Marriage, focusing on the dimensions of effective communication and the development of intimacy in marriage, based on biblical teaching. This is a 12-session course.

Pre-registration is requested by Oct. 19. Note choice of course and location and mail, along with check, to Family Ministry Section, Discipleship Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. **HT**

SMALL CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

William Carey College

October 17, 1992

8:30 a.m. - 12 noon

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The new teaching series will be taught:

Teaching Preschoolers the Bible

Linda Reeves.....**MBCB**

Teaching Children the Bible

Gay Pounders.....**Laurel**

Teaching Youth the Bible

Keith Wilkinson.....**MBCB**

Teaching Adults the Bible

Larry Salter.....**MBCB**

Teaching People the Bible (General Officers)

Randy Tompkins.....**MBCB**

- These leaders are designing their conference for YOU!

- Books may be purchased at the conference for \$4.50 each.

**BREAK
THROUGH**
EQUIP TO WIN

Christian Social Ministries Conference

October 16-17, 1992

Lake Tiak O'Khata
Louisville, Mississippi

PROGRAM: **JAIL AND PRISON MINISTRIES IN MISSISSIPPI**

SPEAKER: Tom Adams

- author of *The Jail: Mission Field for Churches*
- minister in jails
- pastor and former home missionary

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CONTACT:

Cooperative Missions Department
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board
(601) 968-3800
P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530



1993 BIBLE DRILL/SPEAKERS' TOURNAMENT

Request for 1993 Materials

Order by returning this order form to:

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530

Church _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Please send me the following number of pamphlets:

_____ Children _____ Leader's Guide, Children _____ Speakers' Tournament

_____ Youth _____ Leader's Guide, Youth

You're Invited

to attend a

Keyboard/Youth Music Leadership Clinic near you

October 5, 1992
6:30-8:30 p.m.

AREA 2

FBC, Amory

Host	Ray Burke
Organ	Ed Ludlow
Piano	Darwin Brooks
Youth	Edd Brashier

AREA 6

FBC, Newton

Host	Randy Cuchens
Organ	Michaelle Harrison
Piano	Wanda Robinson
Youth	Wayne Baggett

AREA 7

FBC, Summit

Host	Charles D. Wallace
Organ	Kathy Vail
Piano	Dot Pray
Youth	Rick Green

REGISTRATION

Keyboard/Youth, Music Leadership Clinics

Return to: Church Music Dept.
P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

Name _____

Address _____

Church _____

Association _____

Phone _____

Clinic Location: _____

Area of Interest::

- Pianist
- Organist
- Youth



Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



Portuguese palette

Pale pink and gold sunrise rings Lisbon as the Air Portugal plane from Boston brakes, and floats above the rooftops. "Retirees travel," they say; I'd joined the AARP wanderers for three weeks.

Bright orange tiles top the white hotels and villas between our Hotel Cidadela balcony and the sparkling blue Atlantic. Purple morning glories climb the walls to get a better view of the little town of Cascais.

Black are the rocks around the mouth of the caves in the cliff. "Boca de Inferno," says the old man driving the two-horse carriage; "Jaws of Hell." Turquoise is the sea far below, and white where it foams against the rocks. Some careless people who entered the caves never came back, but at high tide washed out to sea.

From the rocks at the sea's edge, fishermen with hooks pull octopus. Women in black buy them during auctions at the fish market.

Whitewashed houses in the medieval walled city of Obidos are painted with blue stripes at the corners, because long ago the Moors said the stripes drove away evil spirits. Purple bougainvillea cascades over the wall that has stood for a thousand years.

At noon the sound of singing escapes through the door of

Obidos' Church of Santa Maria, and a young mother approaches, carrying a baby in a long white christening dress. Lola Autry and I step inside the Catholic church. It is filled. Blue and white tiles, made in the 17th century, adorn its walls. Here are more people than I've ever seen taking part in such a service in Europe, but far more people — residents and tourists — are walking around outside than gathered inside.

Green are the cork trees, the palm trees, the eucalyptus, the pines.

Red is the bullfighter's cape and pale grey the picador's beautiful horse. On a farm south of the Tagus River, a young bull is being tested, to see if he is "brave." I'm thankful that in Portugal they don't kill the bull!

Ivory in color and intricately carved are the tombs of King Pedro and his beloved Ines de Castro, in the 12th century monastery at Alcobaça. Pedro's father had Ines murdered. Two years later, when Pedro became king, he had Ines dug up and crowned queen. Their tombs are placed end to end, facing each other, in the hope that when they rise on judgment day they will immediately see each other again.

Tiles of blue, yellow, green, lavender decorate buildings all

over Portugal, and mark the street names. Blue and white tiles in the Anglican church of St. Paul's at Estoril — within a block of the world's largest casino — carry a verse of T.S. Eliot: "You have seen the house built, you have seen it adorned by one who came in the night; it is now dedicated to God. It is now a visible church, one more light set on a hill in a world confused and dark and disturbed by portents of fear...."

Baptist and other evangelical churches in Portugal are few and small, said Ken Robinson, chaplain of the English-speaking St. Paul's. (I could find no Baptist church on the Portuguese riviera, though I believe there's one in Lisbon). No, Robinson said, his church feels no antagonism from the Catholic Church — but "only indifference." Though there is legally no state religion, evangelical churches pay taxes, he said, while Catholic ones do not.

Three little brown birds perch in separate cages hanging from the second story exterior wall of a house. A speckled sparrow flies up and offers one of them a crumb. How many people of this world, caged in sin and despair, need someone to offer them the Bread of Life — the only crumb of hope they'll ever have for being set free.

YOUNG

From page 3

Executive Committee members voted unanimously to affirm Young's plan.

The nine groups named by Young, with purpose and co-chairs, are:

"Cords and stakes" — to "reach out to like-minded local churches in America and abroad in order to invite them to join Southern Baptist efforts in reaching America and the world for Christ"; and to study the degree to which recommendations of the SBC Peace Committee have been implemented. Co-chairs will be Charles Carter, pastor of Shades Mountain Church in Birmingham, Ala., and Jerry Vines, pastor of First Church in Jacksonville, Fla., and a former SBC president.

Women's ministries — to "identify strategies and methodologies for mobilizing the enormous spiritual gifts and resources of women in the Southern Baptist Convention." Co-chairs are Sarah Maddox of Brentwood, Tenn., and Susie Hawkins of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Young said he plans to name a representative from Woman's Missionary Union to work with the group.

Theology — to develop and articulate theological directions and parameters for the common mission of Southern Baptists. Co-chairs are Timothy George, dean of the Beeson Divinity School at Samford University, and Roy Honeycutt,

president of Southern Seminary.

Family — to develop strategy and materials that focus greater attention on the family. Co-chairs are Charles Page, pastor of First Church in Charlotte, N.C., and Stephen Davis, pastor of First Church in Russellville, Ark.

Multi-ethnic — to seek greater ethnic diversity on trustee boards of SBC agencies and institutions. Co-chairs are George Harris, pastor of Castle Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas, and James Semple, director of the missions division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Reaching the world — to study "existing Southern Baptist Convention strategies as well as those of other evangelical groups" and "set the direction for an aggressive effort to evangelize every community and nation in the world." Co-chairs are Charles Fuller, pastor of First Church in Roanoke, Va., and Jim Henry, pastor of First Church in Orlando, Fla.

Reaching America — to study efforts of Southern Baptists and other evangelical groups and present to SBC entities and local churches a "workable strategy for reaching America for Christ." Co-chairs are Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church in Jackson, and Fred Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Church in Mobile, Ala.

Reaching children and youth — to "develop a plan for presenting the gospel of Jesus Christ to every young person and child in America." Co-chairs are Dwight "Ike"

Thursday, October 1, 1992

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

Two pastors, laywoman tapped for service by Baptist Record

A Baptist laywoman and two pastors have been selected by the Baptist Record to serve as Sunday School lesson commentary writers for the first two quarters of 1993. Commentaries by the new writers will begin publication in the Dec. 31 issue of the state newspaper.

Laura Russell will write lesson commentaries for the Life and Work series. Russell is a member of First Church, Brandon, where she serves as director of a preschool Sunday School department and a preschool children's choir. She also is a member of the adult choir and church soloist. Russell and her husband Charles Porcina have two children.

Guy A. Hughes, pastor of Friendship Church in Grenada, will write commentaries for the Bible Book series. A native of Mississippi, Hughes has been pastor at Friendship since 1990. Prior to that he was director of missions for Yalobusha Association and pastor of O'Tuckala Church in Water Valley. He also has been a pastor in Texas and interim pastor in Louise and Hernando.

Hughes is a published writer, having articles in both the Baptist Record and Grenada Daily Sentinel-Star in Grenada. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and attended Southwestern Seminary. He and his wife Lisa have three children.

First, Starkville, hosts Baptist Student Convention



Over 800 students journeyed to Starkville last weekend to attend the 1992 Baptist Student Convention. The convention's theme, "Good News... Gotta Share It," was interpreted during general sessions by Christian clown/dramatist Doug Berkley (right), musicians Kyle and Susan Matthews (bottom), and youth discipleship leader David Guinn (below). Selective conferences dealt with a variety of personal and social issues. (Baptist Record photos by Teresa Dickens)



ACTS Schedule Changes (effective Oct. 1, 1992)

Mondays

The Good News
3:00 a.m. CST

The Bible & Life
3:30 a.m. CST

Thursdays

The Baptist Hour
11 a.m. CST

Satellites
Satcom F1R, transponder 5

Galaxy 3, transponder 7
(through Oct. only)

Just for the Record



The youth choir of Highland Church, Vicksburg, has completed a mini-tour with their musical, "Live It to the Max 2." They performed at First Church, Durant;

Utica Church; Trace Ridge Church, Ridgeland; and Highland. Bill Patten is pastor; David Grimsley, minister of music; and Mike Pierce, minister of youth.

Cedar Grove, Columbia, recently held a note burning ceremony after completing payment of \$140,000 on the construction of its pastorum. The debt was paid off in five years. Taking part in the ceremony were David Green, pastor; Frank Breland, building chairman; Bill Stringer, contractor; Chick Bourne, chairman of deacons, and other deacons.

Pearson Church, Pearl, will hold a Fall Festival, Oct. 3, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Activities will include crafts, food, entertainment, and fellowship. Free booth space is available by calling Don at (601) 939-9092, or Doug at 939-7657.



Fredonia Church, New Albany, recently dedicated their new sanctuary and educational building. The 54' by 104' building contains a 325-seat sanctuary with upstairs sound room, prayer room, bridal room, restrooms, offices and eight classrooms. J. O. Hooker and Sons Construction Company built the \$250,000 facility. Gregg Thomas is pastor.



Thirty-five volunteers from Southside Church, Lucedale, were on the campus of Florida Baptist College, Graceville, Fla., recently to reroof one of the apartments in student housing. While on campus, the volunteers also led in two backyard Bible studies. This is the second time for volunteers from Southside Church to donate time and effort to minister to the needs at FBTC. Pictured, from left, are: bottom row, Tom Miller, pastor, Bill Bledsoe, Joel Brown, Barkley Henderson, Matt Clark; back row, A.J. Denenea, Houston Miller, Bill Sewell, Tommy Breland, Gary Davis, and Paul Morgan.

The women's ministry of Calvary Church, Starkville, will sponsor a Baptist Women prayer retreat, Oct. 9-10, at Dorrah Lake Baptist Assembly, Bellefontaine. Activities begin with dinner at 7 p.m. Friday and conclude at 2 p.m. Saturday. Dee Weddle from Memphis will be the conference speaker. For additional information, call Shelby Brewer at (601) 323-8223.

The Baptist Men's Fellowship of Pilgrims Rest Church, Batesville, will sponsor a seminar on biblical archaeology Oct. 3, in the auditorium of the church. The program will begin at 4 p.m. A stew supper will be served at 5:30, and the program will resume at 6:30. Jerry Varadaman, professor of archaeology at Mississippi State University, will be the speaker. Admission is free, but a love offering will be taken. Contact the Panola Baptist Center at P.O. Box 546, Batesville, MS 38606-0546, phone (601) 563-7439 to pre-register for the meal.

Country Woods Church, Jackson, will host a concert by gospel songwriter Elmo Mercer Oct. 4 at 6 p.m. A reception will follow. A love offering will be taken. For more information, contact the church at 6737 Siwell Rd., Jackson, MS 39212, (601) 371-7955.

Highland Church women conduct mission effort

Women of Highland Church, Crystal Springs, participated in a week-long mission trip to New Orleans in August.

The group helped in Backyard Bible Clubs at Victory Church, where Terry Dent is pastor, and at Grace Church, where he is minister of music.

The women also ministered to retirees at Annunciation Inn, joined in

Sunday worship at Grace Church, and conducted street evangelism in the area.

Those who participated in the mission trip were: Denise Windom, Laura Thornton, Ruth Ann Bell, Vickie Warren, Linda Courtney, Vickie Greer, Becky Courtney, Joan Martin, and Ann Rials, all members of Highland Church.

Friendship Church observes 175th

Friendship Church, near McComb, will observe its 175th anniversary Oct. 10, 11.

On Oct. 10, the church has planned a 5:30 p.m. "get together" in the family center; worship will follow at 7 p.m.

On Sunday, Oct. 11, Sunday School will be held at 9:45 a.m., worship at 11, covered dish meal in the family center and church family picture at noon.

Charles L. Taylor of Baton Rouge, La., former Friendship pastor, will preach Oct. 10.

The Oct. 11 messages will be preached by Troy Prince of Jonesboro, Ark., morning; and Glenn Smith of Philadelphia, afternoon. Both are former pastors at Friendship.

The church was organized as a mission from Bogue Chitto Church in 1817 and constituted in 1818. It moved to its present location in the late 1800s.

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Revival Dates

Emmanuel (Grenada): Oct. 4-7; Ken Anderson, Jackson, evangelist; Brad and Tammy Jones, Meridian, music; Sun., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon and 7 p.m.; Clarence Cooper, pastor.

Fellowship Church, Taylorsville: Oct. 4-7; Spiritual Life Conference; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 nightly; Jim Scionka, Dallas, Texas, guest

speaker; John Hosey, pastor.

County Line (Neshoba): Oct. 4-4; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun. 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; John Yates, Jackson, evangelist; Keith Fulton, pastor.

Pine Forest, Collinsville: Oct. 4-7; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m. nightly; Ferrell Cork, evangelist; Gary Thorne, music; Harold Lollar, pastor.

Homecomings

Grays Creek, Hernando: Oct. 4; dinner in fellowship hall, noon; afternoon singing; no night services; John Crocker, pastor.

New Prospect Church, Brookhaven: Oct. 4; "Old Fashion Day"; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; and worship, 11 a.m.; dinner on the grounds, noon, followed by games; Discipleship Training, 2:30 p.m.; afternoon worship, 3:30; Gene Douglas, pastor.

Courtland, Courtland: Oct. 4; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11; covered dish dinner, noon; afternoon singing, 1:30; no night services; former pastors Thurman and McDaniels, guest speakers; guest singers, Ricky and Cheryl Martin, Praise, and Canaan-lan-

ders; Roy E. Southern, pastor.

Providence (Lebanon): Oct. 4; 174th anniversary; beginning 11 a.m.; dinner on grounds, noon; no night services; Dan Thompson, Nacogdoches, Texas, guest speaker; Cliff Lazenby, pastor.

Brewer, Richton: Oct. 11; 10:50 a.m.; dinner on grounds, noon; afternoon singing, 1:30; no night service; Tolbert Traylor, Laurel, speaker; "Stepping Stones," Sandhill, music; Michael R. McLendon, pastor.

Calvary, Oak Grove (Lamar): Oct. 3-4; fish fry fellowship, Sat., 5-7 p.m.; Sun., worship, 10:30 a.m.; dinner on grounds, noon; afternoon singing, 2 p.m.; night service, 7; Billy Smith, New Orleans, speaker; Gold City Gospel group, music; John Voss, pastor.

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Oral Church, Sumrall, recently held an ordination service. Those who participated are pictured above, left to right: Jerry Hanberry, chairman of deacons; B.J. Barrett, pastor; Acker Smith, ordained into the ministry; Steve Terrell, ordained as a deacon; and Douglas Benedict, director of missions, Lamar Association.

Clark Walker, member of Corinth Church and student at Copiah-Lincoln Community College; and Michael Craft, New Bethlehem Church, Mendenhall, a student at Hinds Community College, were this year's recipients of the Rice Ainsworth Memorial Scholarships. The scholarships are provided by Miss Willie Ainsworth in memory of her parents through the Mississippi Baptist Foundation and the Simpson Association.

James S. Slater of Clinton, professor of music at Mississippi College, has been honored with a cash award by the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers, in recognition of his composition and performance activity.



Barry South, left, and Tamra Blocker, right, recently received awards from State Boulevard Church, Meridian, for six years' perfect attendance in the children's choir program.

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

Names in the News



Nathan Carroll, right, was licensed to the gospel ministry Aug. 16 by West Union Church, Carriere. He is a graduate of Pearl River Central High School, and is enrolled at Pearl River Community College. Carroll is available for supply, interim, or pastoral work, and can be reached at (601) 798-4211. Billy Dowdy, left, is pastor, West Union.



John Hux, age 15, right, was licensed to preach on July 24 by Everett Church, Mendenhall. He is pictured with the pastor of Everett, William A. McWilliams. Hux can be reached at (601) 847-4537.

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Life and Work

Make a personal response



By Milton Burd
1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-19

"Equipping believers for Breakthrough!" This will be our theme for the next 10 weeks as we study from the pastoral epistles, 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus. 1 Timothy encourages us to develop qualities in our lives that will provide a breakthrough for the gospel of Jesus Christ. This calls for commitment. Our passage in 1 Timothy focuses on making a personal response to breakthrough.

Paul had left Timothy in charge of the work in Ephesus while he traveled on to Macedonia. He wrote this letter of encouragement and instruction to the young, inexperienced Timothy. It was his challenge for breakthrough in the church at Ephesus. Let's look at this passage in 1 Timothy 1.

A divine commission (vv. 1-2). Service to Jesus Christ is rooted in his divine commission and a person's relationship to him. Paul reminded Timothy of the commission that he received "by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope."

Paul became an apostle by the command of God through "Christ Jesus our hope." He committed his total being to this command. We are called to follow the same command as Paul. We have been called to serve.

Grace, mercy, and peace are divine blessings bestowed on those who live by faith. Paul desired these blessings for Timothy, his true son in the faith. Timothy faced a difficult task in the church at Ephesus. Paul encouraged Timothy to depend on these blessings from God.

A testimony of abundant grace (vv. 12-14). The commission to serve Christ is another expression of his abundant saving grace. Paul used these verses to give his own personal testimony. He reminded Timothy that he had been a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a violent man before he experienced the abundant grace of Jesus Christ. Paul was thankful that Jesus had given him strength, considered him faithful and had given him the privilege of being a servant. Paul became an example of abundant grace and became a pattern to all lost sinners. He provided proof that the grace of God can change any sinner.

God entrusted the gospel to Paul and enabled him to become a breakthrough kind of servant. Paul achieved breakthrough in taking the gospel to Gentiles, in establishing churches and in winning many to Christ. We have many opportunities today to be breakthrough servants.

The reason Jesus came to the world (v. 15). The truth of the gospel is that Jesus came into the world to save those who confess that they are sinners. Jesus said, "I have come to seek and save those who are lost" (Luke 19:10). He gave his life for the sins of the world. Salvation comes through Jesus. Paul told Timothy that he had been the worst of all sinners.

A reason for Paul's salvation (v. 16). Paul, the worst of sinners, had experienced salvation and thus became a testimony of the mercy of Jesus and his saving ability. No person is beyond the reach of his mercy, grace, and salvation. This is our message to share with others.

A glorious doxology (v. 17). Jesus is worthy of praise. Paul expressed exaltation to the King Eternal. Jesus is worthy of our praise and worship. Worship should be an important part of our lives.

Paul's charge to Timothy (vv. 18-19). Paul reminded Timothy of the prophecies (or affirmations) about him. The memory of these prophecies would encourage Timothy "to fight the good fight." He would need a strong faith and a good conscience to lead the Christians in Ephesus. The opportunities that we have to serve Jesus Christ become expressions of our commitment and faithfulness. Our faith needs to be a breakthrough kind of faith.

Burd is minister of education, First Church, Cleveland.

Uniform

Choices have consequences



By Margaret H. Rogers
1 Samuel 7:15-8:22

Samuel was the connecting link between judges and the kingdom as he served as the last of the judges. His birthplace was Ramah, about six miles north of Jerusalem. Ramah also was his judicial residence and place of burial. His father was Elkanah; his mother, Hannah. Both parents were Ephraimites.

Hannah was a noble example of womanhood. She prayed for a son and she gave him back to the Lord to live in God's house in Shiloh and to be a protege' of Eli. Samuel turned out to be one of the noblest and purest of characters in history. The author of First Samuel is uncertain. It was probably written shortly after the division of the kingdom that followed after the death of Solomon in 922 B.C. First and Second Samuel are named after the individual whom God used to establish kingship in Israel. It was Samuel, who under God, had the responsibility of setting up the kingdom and anointing the first kings. As a judge, he won a notable victory over the Philistines. He founded schools for the instruction of the prophets. Samuel was a judge, priest, and prophet, and is really the bridge that connects the old and new order.

Samuel as a judge (1 Samuel 7:15-17). Samuel in his role as judge administered public justice. Even after Saul was made king, Samuel promised Israel, "I will not cease to teach you the good and the right way." Samuel kept courts at Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpeh. He lived at Ramah and there he built an altar, both for the use of his own family and for the good of the country.

Corruption calls for change (1 Samuel 8:1-5). Two sad but not strange thoughts appear in this scripture. First, Samuel was old and was not able to govern as he once did. He was perhaps not much past sixty years of age at this time but he had spent his strength and spirit in serving Israel. Second is the fact that the sons of this noble man did not follow in his steps. When Samuel's sons became judges, they, like many others since that time, were corrupted by power. Their evil ways so incensed the elders of Israel that they informed Samuel that they wanted a king like other nations.

Samuel's resentment at the request (vv. 6-9). How it displeased Samuel when the elders requested a king! They did not rebel against Samuel or try to set up a king themselves, but their request must have been quite a surprise to Samuel. Samuel felt it to be an affront to his position. He went to the Lord seeking divine direction for the path to follow. The people were actually rejecting God, for the government of Israel was a theocracy. Their leaders had their call and commission directly from God; the affairs of their nation were under his direction. God told Samuel to listen to the people but to warn them that they would not be pleased with the rule of kings.

The people's obstinacy in their demands (vv. 19-22). The people of Israel were determined to have a king, whatever it cost them or whatever inconvenience it brought upon them or their posterity. They were deaf to reason and blind to their own best interests. Samuel, a man of prayer, approached the Lord again. God gave direction that they should have a king since they were so set upon the matter.

The greatness of Samuel has to be measured against the times in which he lived for it was truly a chaotic period — those were the formative years of the kingdom. Samuel was a lonely figure of tremendous stature whose task it was to start the organization of the kingdom. He did not live to see that kingdom in its days of glory under David and Solomon, however. Samuel's task was to prepare Israel for her days of glory. By his impeccable integrity, his unwavering loyalty to Jehovah, his wise counsel and sound judgment, he made a contribution to his nation that few have surpassed.

It is a human tendency to ignore consequences of the choices, whether the choices were wise or unwise. However, God grants wisdom to his children to make wise choices if they seek his direction and if they obey him.

Rogers is a member of Salem Church, Collins.

Bible Book

Gentile guilt for sin



By David Raddin
Romans 1:16-21, 24-25, 28-32

I have sinned. You have sinned. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). For our sin, we are guilty. In our text we read of gentile guilt for sin. In Romans 2 and 3, we read of Jewish guilt for sin. We have chosen our way over God's way and the sentence of death is upon us. "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).

So what do we do to make ourselves right with God? Because there is nothing we can do, and because of his great love, God makes a way for us through Jesus to be saved from sin. "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). The good news is that God loves you and wants you to have personal relationship with Jesus as you confess your sin, find his forgiveness, and accept him as your Lord and Savior.

The power of the gospel (1:16-17). "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the gentile" (v. 16). In Romans 1:2-4, Paul tells us the gospel is the fulfillment of God's promise through the prophets. The promise is fulfilled in Jesus.

Paul seems to use "not ashamed" for emphasis. The opposite of shame is glory, and Paul glories in the gospel. In Galatians 6:14, he writes, "Far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world."

The gospel is for "the salvation of everyone who believes." God's love reaches to every person. However bad or good, every one of us falls short of God's glory. Salvation is God's offer. To accept him as Savior and Lord is an individual decision, the most important decision a person ever makes. Will you accept Jesus as your Savior and Lord today?

Paul goes on to say that salvation comes "first for the Jew, then for the gentile." In God's plan, the Messiah came first to the Jews. The gospel is offered equally, though, both to Jews and gentiles. Nations, races, and all the human divisions of people fall to insignificance, as God's salvation is for every person.

We read in verse 17, "For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith.'" Through Christ, the Lord makes a way for man to be made right before him. God's righteousness that makes salvation possible is received by faith. The Revised Standard Version translates Romans 1:17: "He who through faith is righteous shall live."

The gentiles without excuse (1:18-21). "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse" (1:18-20).

God's wrath always comes against sin. His wrath against sin is a part of his love. God loves us so much that he sent Jesus to die for our sins so that all who believe in him will have eternal life (John 3:16). Those who reject Christ are without excuse before God.

Paul writes that the gentiles had knowledge of God through nature. God revealed his power and deity to them through what he has made. They knew enough of the Lord through nature to honor him as God. J. W. McGowan says, "God reveals himself through nature; nature alone does not reveal God. Actually, apart from God nature reveals nothing.... Men are as capable of rejecting God's revelation in nature as they are of rejecting his revelation in Jesus Christ" (from Romans Everyman's Gospel).

The judgment of God (1:24-25, 28-32). Each person must receive or reject God's revelation. Either decision has consequences. To those who reject God, the terrible results are echoed in the words Paul uses three times in verses 24, 26, and 28: "God gave them up." To those who receive him, God gives eternal and abundant life in Christ.

God offers life through Christ to you today. Accept him as Lord and Savior. To those who know him, go tell the good news!

Raddin is pastor, First Church, Yazoo City.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

The Baptist Children's Village

Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director



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Ronny Robinson, executive director of Baptist Children's Village, and Peggy Taylor (bottom, middle), unit director, presented service pins to several staff members during a recent meeting. Those awarded pins were Ruby Shelton (top), 10 years; Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Jones (bottom), one year; and Terri Hood (not pictured), one year.



Sixty-five volunteers recently spent three days at India Nunnery Campus painting a cottage, installing playground equipment, along with a number of other repairs. Workers also donated and installed new rugs in the cottage. The Village was selected to receive the help as part of Community Service Week, sponsored by IBM, Inc.

Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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(to be continued)

Minister leaves church after it shunned his HIV-infected son

By Jim Jones

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Devastated on learning his wife and two young children were infected by the deadly AIDS virus, a third-generation Baptist minister thought he could find help in the church that had nurtured him since his infancy.

Instead, Scott Allen and his family were shunned, becoming modern-day pariahs, he said. Some of those churches now regret their treatment of the Allens, and one, Broadway Church, Fort Worth, has changed its policy as a result.

The grandson of a Baptist minister and the son of Jimmy Allen, former Southern Baptist Convention president, 36-year-old Scott Allen has left the church and is telling his story to encourage congregations to help those infected with the human immunodeficiency virus, which leads to AIDS.

"I don't think it's strictly a failure of churches," he said in a telephone interview from New York, where he was taping news and talk show programs. "It's a failure of our culture and our society and too often churches reflect society."

In Dallas and Fort Worth, Allen said his eldest son Matt was turned away from Sunday School at First Church of Arlington and Broadway Baptist in Fort Worth. He also said he was advised to conceal the boy's HIV infection at University Christian Church, a Disciples of Christ congregation in Fort Worth.

Moreover, the family received sympathy but little help from other congregations, including Travis Avenue Church under pastor Joel Gregory, he asserted.

Allen's life fell apart in 1985 when he was informed the donor of the blood his wife, Lydia, had received years before in a San Francisco transfusion had died of AIDS. Lydia Allen contracted HIV and passed it through the womb to their two sons, Bryan and Matt. Bryan died soon after at seven months, the first reported congenital pediatric AIDS fatality in the Fort Worth area.

Lydia Allen, who died in February at age 38, was co-founder of Bryan's House in Dallas, a facility that helps children who either have the AIDS virus or have parents who do.

"Lydia was such a remarkable

woman and did some incredible things in the midst of tremendous tragedy," Allen said. "I feel kind of sad she chose to remain silent."

Until now, he has kept the story quiet because his wife believed publicity would hurt their surviving son, Matt. Now 10, Matt is attending school in Dallas and is doing well on AZT treatments.

"I joined the First Church of Arlington because I thought we were going to live in Arlington," Allen said.

Although Charles Wade, pastor of the Arlington church, was very sympathetic, three couples who had been sounded out opposed allowing Matt, then three, to attend Sunday school. Two of the couples said they consulted a pair of Arlington pediatricians, one of whom advised them against having their children play with Matt.

"We didn't know as much about the AIDS virus in 1985," Wade recalled. "I sensed it was very difficult for them. If something had gone wrong, I would have regretted it. I didn't push them to do it. I let it drop."

"I feel very badly about it," he said. "We could have reached out to them and we failed. We just did. I hope that out of this the consciences of churches will be pricked all across America so that better policies can be developed."

Efforts have been under way, on and off for two years, to investigate a new policy on permitting participation of people with HIV, Wade added.

Allen said he was more shocked when Broadway Church in Fort Worth, known nationally as a progressive congregation, also blocked his son from attending Sunday School.

"The experience haunted us and has caused us to do a tremendous amount of study," said Jan Hill, minister of childhood education at Broadway.

The Allens' request initially went to Cecil Sherman, then senior minister and a friend of the family, she said.

"It was discussed by the ministerial staff. We sought counsel from six physicians, as well as the Centers for Disease Control," said Hill, who has been at the church for seven years. "We could not get the same story twice from physicians, for one thing, and basically

did not respond to the (Allen) family."

Joel Gregory was reaching the height of his popular following in Fort Worth when, as pastor of Travis Avenue Church, he was approached by Allen, whose parents were then members of Gregory's church.

"I was looking for any church that would take us in," Allen said. "We were looking at the possibility of taking Matt to the church's nursery."

But Gregory, now pastor of First Church of Dallas and a leader in the conservative movement in the 15.2 million member denomination, recalled the meeting differently.

"I went to Scott's home and offered to do anything Travis Avenue would do," said Gregory, who maintained Allen never directly requested church membership. "I was in a very difficult position because we were trying to help them while keeping it confidential about the HIV virus."

Afterward, Allen said, he went to University Christian Church, where Albert M. Pennybacker was senior minister.

"He was very supportive but was concerned about how the community would respond," Allen said. Pennybacker, he recalled, suggested he attend Sunday School with Matt while concealing his son's HIV status.

After Bryan's death, Allen said, he gave up on his search for a church.

"I thought enough was enough," he said. "We felt like the church had let us down. Why beat our heads against the wall?"

Allen left his job with the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission in 1990, saying he could no longer remain a Baptist. He now consults with the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School on a project dealing with care of AIDS patients.

"So many are living in secrecy and silent pain," he said. "It is unfortunate that society is moving so slowly to accept us. Ours is not an isolated case."

Jones is religion editor of Fort Worth STAR-TELEGRAM. Hollace Weiner and Anita Baker, both staff writers for STAR-TELEGRAM, contributed to this report.



MC recipe roundup

Favorite recipes from the private collections of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of Mississippi College are requested for the college's first cookbook. Pictured above are, left to right, Joy Nobles and Bettye Coward, co-chairpersons; Dorothy Carpenter, chairperson; and Janet Lee, editor, in a planning session. The book is expected to be out by Homecoming 1993. Any Mississippi Baptist is encouraged to send a recipe, no later than Nov. 10, 1992 to MC, Box 4041, Clinton, MS 39058, or call (601) 924-5693.

Catholic educators say: Survey shows support for school "parental choice"

WASHINGTON (ABP) — A recent nationwide survey apparently indicates a growing support for public funding of private schools. But a Baptist church-state specialist said the survey ignores reality, history and constitutionality.

A Gallup Poll, conducted for the National Catholic Education Association, indicated 70% of the 1,239 adults surveyed supported "parental choice," a plan to provide parents tax dollars to send their children to the public, private or religious schools of their choice.

Nearly 61% of Americans surveyed said they would be willing to shift tax money from public schools to choice programs. The poll also revealed that support for a national voucher program is strong among minorities, with African Americans and Hispanics representing the largest supportive subgroups in the survey.

The Bush administration has proposed two choice plans. The first has been rejected by both chambers of Congress, and the second one is pending. The second proposal, "The G.I. Bill for Children," would provide \$1,000 scholarships for children of low- and middle-income families to attend the schools of their choice.

Michael Guerra, executive director of the NCEA Secondary Schools Department, said the choice debate will be changed by the publication of this poll.

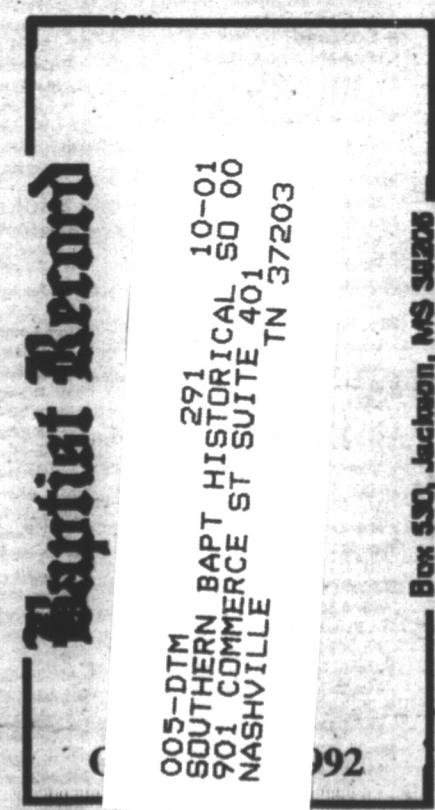
"All those who believe that educational choice is not the key to changing American education must now confront the

reality of the American people's opinion," Guerra said.

James Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, disagreed.

"We still hold some truths to be self evident: that public money goes only for public purposes, that no one pays taxes to support religious institutions, that Americans have a common commitment to the common school," Dunn said.

The survey results are based on telephone interviews with a national sample of 1,239 adults, including 492 Roman Catholics. The survey was conducted from July 3-30 and has a 3% margin of error.



Freemason opponent meets with HMB

ATLANTA (BP) — The man who prompted the Southern Baptist Convention's latest struggle with Freemasonry met Sept. 17 with the Home Mission Board group assigned to determine whether Masonic teachings are compatible with Christian doctrine.

Larry Holly, a Beaumont, Texas, physician, met for more than three hours with six members of the HMB interfaith witness depart-

ment, HMB President Larry Lewis and Vice President for Evangelism Darrell Robinson and trustee Brad Allen of Duncan, Okla., who chairs the trustees' evangelism committee. Joining Holly in his presentation was Charles Burchett, pastor of First Baptist Church in Kirbyville, Texas.

"It was a very good and congenial meeting," Lewis said. "Dr. Holly did an excellent job of sharing his perspective and pertinent

information."

Robinson said Holly "presented the material with openness and cordiality."

Masons also have been invited to discuss their teachings and writings with the interfaith witness department, Lewis said.

The meeting with Holly was among the department's first dialogues as it begins the study, said Gary Leazer, director of the interfaith witness department.